



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

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May 20, 2013

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: SGR Repeal and Reform Proposal: Medicare Payment Locality Update

Dear Chairmen Camp and Upton:

On behalf of the San Bernardino County Medical Society (SBCMS), I am writing to urge you to include an update of the outdated Medicare physician payment localities in your Medicare payment reform legislation. Such an update would improve payment accuracy in the Medicare program and be consistent with your goal to reform the overall Medicare payment system. The last physician locality update was 16 years ago and physicians in San Bernardino County in California are underpaid by an annual sum of \$1.8 million.

On April 15th, Paul Phinney, MD, President of the California Medical Association (CMA) submitted a letter to you highlighting in detail the many reasons why corrective action is needed and the possible solutions currently being considered at this time. The 2,500 physicians in San Bernardino County stand with CMA in calling for a long over-due adjustment of the Medicare payment amount.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this very important issue that affects healthcare access in San Bernardino County.

Sincerely,

Leroy Ounanian, MD
President

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